

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Technical Committee Minutes -December 4, 2008

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Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Those present were:

Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; Dirk Westbury, BCATS staff; John Gaydos, City of Bay City; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Terry Moulthane, City of Bay City, Brandon Wilcox, MDOT Planning; Rick Fowler, MDOT Planning; Dale Majerczyk, City of Essexville; Rachel Tupica, FHWA and; Dave Geiger, MDOT-Saginaw.

Minutes from October 7, 2008 Tech meeting:

It was moved by Wilcox, seconded by Gaydos, to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2008 meeting. Motion Passed.

Engelhardt had everyone at the meeting make brief introductions. Brandon Wilcox is officially replacing Rick Fowler as the MDOT representative for BCATS .

Updated Revenue Estimates from MDOT for FY 2009-10-11-12-13:

Engelhardt provided everyone with handouts of the new updated revenue estimates from MDOT for FY 2009-10-11-12-13. We are looking at an \$400,000 shortage from the previous estimates from 2009, 2010 and 2011 combined. In the current TIP, there is currently allocated \$1,358,896 and \$1,386,051 in 2009 and 2010, respectively, which is less than 10% over the new estimates. Rick Fowler from MDOT stated that he didn't think we should change any of our estimates for 2009, 2010 or 2011 as the estimates for 2009 and 2010 were less than 10% over the new estimates and in 2011 just over a 10% difference. Rachael Tupica agreed with Rick Fowler's statements and also indicated she didn't think we needed to change the dollars we currently have programed in the TIP for any of the years through 2011. Discussion ensued.

Discuss TIP Changes Due to Revenue Estimates:

Engelhardt doesn't think that anything should be changed in the TIP at this time given the statements by Fowler and Tupica. He thinks the TIP and the estimates should be re-visited in March or April of 2009 when the City of Bay City has a better handle on its job estimates, particularly for the Marquette and Harrison Street projects.

BCATS 2008-11 TIP Amendments:

Engelhardt discussed the need to make an amendment to the 2008-11 TIP to include the Marquette safety project in 2009 and the two bridge rehabilitation projects in 2011. Gaydos stated that he will be recommending to the Bay City Commission that the project be done using concrete instead of asphalt, a more expensive option, but will last longer. If the concrete option is selected, Bay City may need more funds for the project since the safety grant is a maximum of \$400,000. Discussion continued.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Majerczyk, to make favorable recommendation to the BCATS Policy Committee to amendment to the 2008-11 TIP to include the Marquette safety project in 2009 and the two bridge rehabilitation projects in 2011. Motion passed.

BCATS 2010-11-12-13 TIP Development:

BCATS will need to have all projects to be listed in the 2010-11-12-13 TIP identified and prioritized by February 2009 to have BCATS approval of the TIP by June 2009. There are

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some concerns that project information will not really be available until March or April of 2009.

Transportation Funding Task Force Results:

Engelhardt provided everyone with a handout of the Legislative Update of the Transportation Funding Task Force results. The task force made some recommendations, though nothing conclusive. Something has to be done, otherwise the do nothing results might be financially devastating. One thing being looked at is a change in the gas tax percentage to help transportation move financially forward. Lots of ideas and recommendations came out of the Transportation Funding Task Force, however nothing was resolved.

Tri-County Regional Path Study Update:

Engelhardt gave an update on the progress of Phase II of the Tri-County Regional Path Study. In Phase II sub-groups have been created to look into which routes in their area would make for the best connectivity. The draft report is currently out and the final report will be available by the end of the month.

BCATS FY-2009 UWP:

The BCATS 2009 UWP has been approved. Tupica indicated that the UWP submitted by BCATS was all set with FHWA.

BCATS Annual Report:

The BCATS Annual Report is placed in the Bay City Times on the last Saturday of the calendar year (Dec. 27th 2008). Engelhardt explained that it was important to have the annual report posted to let the public know about BCATS and what projects are facilitated through BCATS. If there's anything any one would want added to the BCATS Annual Report they need to submit it before the next BCATS Policy Meeting. It is anticipated that a draft for review will be presented at the next BCATS Policy Meeting.

Project Updates:

The ***Pine Street Project*** is complete. There are a few manhole cover issues that will be taken care. The ***Essexville Road Rating Project*** is complete, with the help of Dirk Westbury. It is anticipated that a report from the data collected will be complete in the spring of 2009. The ***Harrison Street Project*** is on schedule, though there are some concerns regarding the SHPO archeological requirements. The project went to bid November 19, 2008. It is anticipated that this project will be let in January, 2009. The ***Liberty Bridge*** and ***Independence Bridge*** will be painted beginning January 2, 2009. The Liberty Bridge will be the first bridge painted and should take about six weeks to complete, followed by the Independence Bridge which will also take about six weeks to paint.

Other/New Business:

Legislative Eye Opener:

Gaydos and Engelhardt attend a Legislative Eye Opener earlier this month and met with area state and federal legislatures. Gaydos noted that we should be ready for any changes in transportation funding that might come from the Obama Administration. To be ready, Gaydos will have a survey completed so that the next

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project planned for Bay City, Johnson St from Center Ave to 11th St, would be ready to go if additional funds become available.

2009-2013 MDOT 5-Year Program:

Engelhardt provided everyone with a handout of the 2009-2013 MDOT 5-Year Program: which are currently being provided for public review until the end of the month. All projects in the 5-year program are currently on the BCATS TIP or will be in the forth coming 2010-2013 TIP.

M-25/Center Avenue:

Federal and SHPO approval is currently underway for the electrical aspect of this project. FHWA is asking for a letter stating that no trees will be damaged if the City of Bay City decides to put in underground electric for the M-25/Center Avenue project. If trees are damaged all federal funding would have to be returned.

As there was no other business, the December 4, 2008 meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

Transcribed by C. Gaul

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